



TRASHED DEHSART

DESERT ENGAGEMENT: HINDER SWILL ACHIEVE RECYCLED TRASH



AN ANTELOPE VALLEY
ECO-ART PROGRAM BY
HINTERCULTURE 2013



DEHSART

An Antelope Valley eco-art program that received a grant from the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force in March of 2013 to combine prevention, awareness and outreach through artistic engagement and environmental education surrounding the issue of illegal dumping in the High Desert region of Los Angeles County.

MAJOR SPONSORS

The Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force
LA County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich's Antelope Valley Office
Lockheed Martin
Waste Management
The City of Lancaster
The City of Palmdale

IN KIND SPONSORS

The City of Palmdale
Waste Management

PROJECT TEAM

Karyl Newman, Artist, Hinterculture
Larissa Nickel, Artist, Hinterculture

In Kind Assistance:

Christine Borzaga, Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force
Benjamin Lucha, The City of Palmdale
Armin Gomez, The City of Palmdale
Julianne Haness, Waste Management

MEDIA SUPPORT

Antelope Valley Media
The Antelope Valley Times
Backdrop Palmdale and Channel 27, The City of Palmdale
KCET Artbound
My Antelope Valley

PUBLIC SUPPORT

The Antelope Valley Fair
Antelope Valley Arts
Butler's Coffee
Community participants and artists
Curiosity Quest Goes Green
Jennifer from JCPenney
Palmdale City Library
Thursday Nights on the Square



hinterculture

DEHSART is a project of Hinterculture—an arts collaborative launched by artists and educators Karyl Newman and Larissa Nickel—that reveals the outlying history, art, technology and business of the Mojave Desert by mining sites for social, cultural and aesthetic meaning.



♻️ HOW DOES ART
CONNECT CULTURE
TO SCIENCE?



♻️ HOW DOES ART ALTER
THE PERCEPTION OF
PLACE?



♻️ CAN WE ENGINEER A
NEW HUMAN-NATURE
INTERFACE?

“The freedom to make and remake our cities and ourselves is, I want to argue, one of the most precious yet most neglected of our human rights.” David Harvey summarizing Henri Lefebvre ♻️



♻️ CAN ART HELP
CULTIVATE A
SUSTAINABLE CITY?



♻️ HOW DOES ART ENRICH
OUR COMMUNITY AND
ENGAGE ECO-ACTIVISM?



♻️ WHAT'S NEXT?

PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Moving recycling from the cultural periphery and installing it in the cultural hub demands taking a life-long pledge to banish the notion of ‘waste’ and install the concept of ‘resource’.” –Linda Weintraub

Desert Engagement: Hinder Swill Achieve Recycled Trash (DEHSART) is an artist-led engagement initiative in response to the prevalence of illegally dumped waste in the desert that aimed to inspire innovative strategies for creative transformation of the natural environment using artistic practices and community coordinated arts learning. Artists are trained to originate new approaches, to invent creative strategies, to acquire an unconventional understanding of the material substances that manage our lives, and to engage in reframing accepted ideals through a creative lens. In partnership with municipalities, environmental corporations, community advocates, and the general public, the arts can foster social connections, collective action, and civic empowerment to transform our landscape and inspire change in our communities and our ecosystem.

As an eco-art project, DEHSART is an exploration of science, engineering, art, and design that informs transdisciplinary action for tackling ecological issues and reveals an experimental curatorial approach with methodologies that embrace recycling, reuse, repurposing and creative strategies combined with disciplines of cultural anthropology, economics, sociology, archaeology, geography, history, and environmental studies.

DEHSART asks many questions about waste, viewing it not just as an environmental problem, but as a process and a convergence of humans and nature, of rejected material cultural, social value judgments, infrastructural and economic challenges, and most potently—as a source of creativity.

"Our failure to address environmental issues is not a failure of information but a failure of imagination." John Robinson

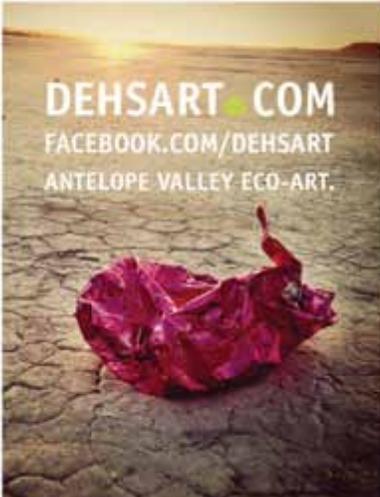
The social art and participatory project used four milestones to measure and achieve success throughout the initial timeframe of the project:

RESEARCH/DESIGN/CREATE/CULTIVATE

Intervening within existing dump sites, the five public art works created during the project as well as the mobile technology and research oriented structure illustrate several strategies to re-contextualize discarded waste into new meanings—environmentally, socially, and conceptually. By engaging the public through art and new media relational structures the program explores how to use art to instill the idea that waste is a resource.



STOPILLEGALDUMPING.COM



DEHSART.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/DEHSART
ANTELOPE VALLEY ECO-ART.

DESERT ENGAGEMENT:
HINDER SWILL ACHIEVE
RECYCLED TRASH
REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE
REFRAME REPURPOSE
RETHINK RESOURCE

JOIN **DEHSART** 

REPORT:
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DEHSART COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR- PALMDALE A BEAUTIFUL CITY LETS HAVE IT CLEAN



DEHSART



DEHSART COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS DECIDING ON THEIR VOTE



DEHSART BOOTH AT THURSDAY NIGHT ON THE SQUARE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH BY ARTIST MONIQUE STEVENS



C A



DEHSART BOOTH AT THE CALRECYCLE CONFERENCE IN SACRAMENTO

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L Y



DEHSART WORKING WITH STUDENTS AT EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL



FOUND POLAROID-FIRST PLACE IN JURIED EXHIBITION

S T



Concerned Citizen Report

Updated Jun 3, 2013

There is this huge lot with a bunch of Joshua trees across ave O-4 or O-8 in Palmdale that is FUULLLL and I mean FULL, of Wal-Mart trash. Anything that can be blown by the wind from their parking lot makes its final resting place among the tumble weeds and joshua trees. I feel sad everytime I see it.

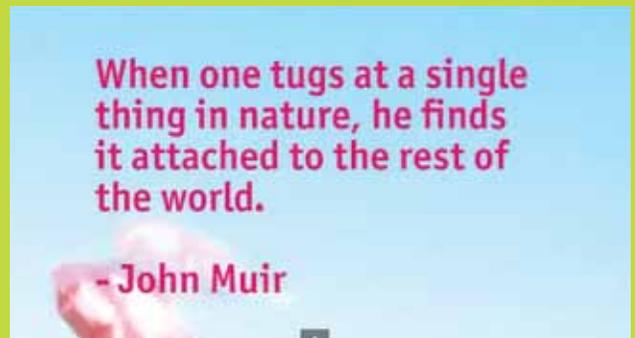
[Directions](#) [Search nearby](#) [Save to map](#) [more](#)

DEHSART COMMUNITY GOOGLE MAP

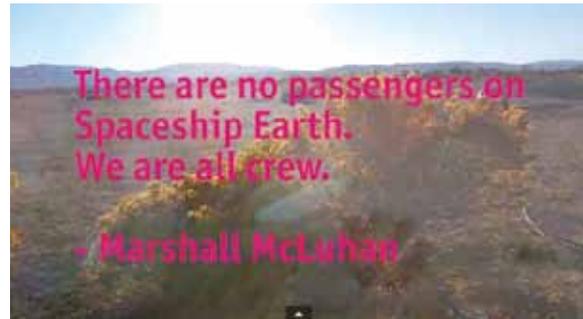
RETHINK



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WHAT'S NEXT?



Concerns with conservation, biodiversity, resource management, climate change, and the impact of expanding populations place the Mojave Desert as a dynamic but fragile eco-system that needs to be studied. Integration of arts-centered research that is interdisciplinary, upholds experimental pedagogy, and has an immersive design and process can assist in existing efforts in recycling, and environmental projects to further impact these efforts.

DEHSART takes the future as a starting place to ask questions about illegal dumping, and uses arts implementation as a preventative strategy that challenges people to reconsider their waste, and further their responsibility in accounting for it in the present. *How does art alter the perception of place? Can we engineer a new human-nature interface? Can art help cultivate a sustainable city? How does eco-art enrich our community and engage eco-activism?* These questions and more will continue to push the success of the DEHSART project forward.

With a strong beginning in 2013, there is still much to accomplish in diversifying and engaging the public about the effects of illegal dumping on the Mojave Desert particularly in the Antelope Valley. Continued progress with the DEHSART project can be made in expanded bilingual outreach, continued efforts of durational public art engagement and application of artist led educational tools.

Additional recommendations for increased environmental impacts may be found by developing a creative reuse and repurposing site similar to Scrap Humbolt which diverted over 8 tons of materials from the waste stream in its first 9 months while offering educational programming through community workshops for youth and adults, students and teachers. Similar models are found throughout the US, and may be considered as a possible reuse program for the Antelope Valley region.

Continued support of creative research is necessary to deepen the understanding and sustain the messaging that DEHSART explored. Durational public art that intersects with human-nature-cultural engagement is necessary for our future, and we hope that you will join us on the journey.

Please contact us at info@dehsart.com. Relationships build community, and community makes change.

Waste is a resource. Don't desert it.



“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.” –Aldo Leopold



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